

**Principal's Message** ~ Sept 25<sup>th</sup> – Sept 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## **This Week at Lord Tweedsmuir**

**Thursday September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

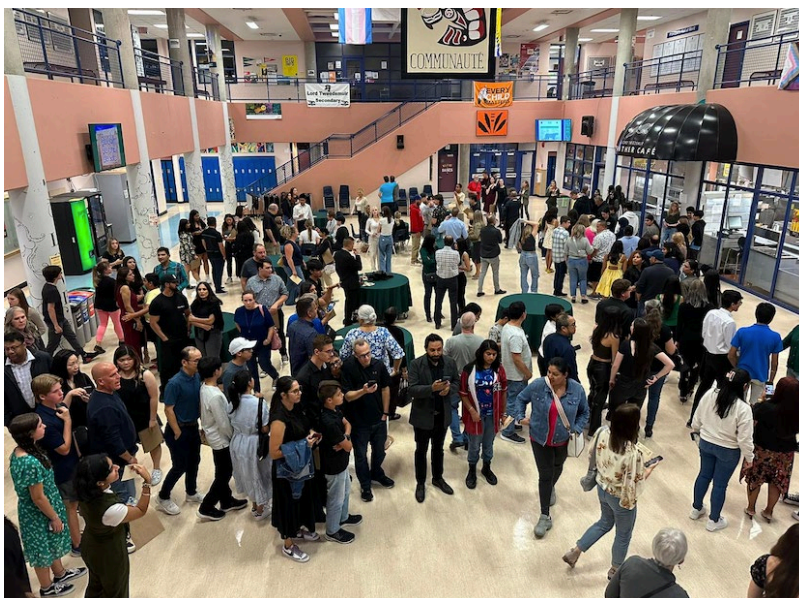
Happy Thursday morning Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary!



Last Friday was an important day for our school community with a couple of very special events. Our morning started with our annual Grade 8 Breakfast. This is a wonderful tradition for our incoming grade 8's and newest Panthers. Great thanks to Chef Buist, Cafeteria Assistant Elliott and all of our Cafeteria students for preparing breakfast. Also, great thanks to our Activities Coordinator extraordinaire Mr. Mitro for organizing. Well done Panthers!



On Friday evening, the school celebrated excellence in education at our Awards Ceremony. Thanks so much to our great team that helped make this evening possible. Thanks to our Awards Committee, PHE Department and PHE Leadership students and all of our teacher volunteers. It was a very well attended evening of recognition and celebration. We are very proud of our students!



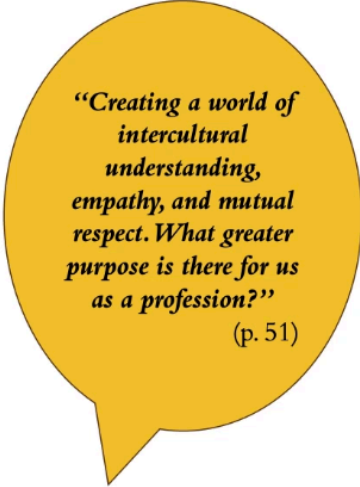
This week is Truth and Reconciliation Week at our school. Our Indigenous Advocacy Team with help from our Student Leadership volunteers have been very busy putting together a week of meaningful activities and awareness and educational materials. Our work together towards Truth and Reconciliation is such an important aspect of our British Columbia education system, our National dialogue and personal reflection.

## Education as a Way Forward

### *TRC Call to Action #63:*

We call upon the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada to maintain an annual commitment to Aboriginal education issues, including:

- Developing and Implementing Kindergarten to Grade Twelve curriculum and learning resources on Aboriginal peoples in Canadian history, and the history and legacy of residential schools.
- Sharing information and best practices on teaching curriculum related to residential schools and Aboriginal history.
- *Building student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect.*
- Identifying teacher-training needs relating to the above.



*“Creating a world of  
intercultural  
understanding,  
empathy, and mutual  
respect. What greater  
purpose is there for us  
as a profession?”  
(p. 51)*

Monday was a Professional Development Day for our District, and in support of Truth and Reconciliation, our staff spent the day with the Kwantlen First Nation at their Cultural Centre. We learned more about the impact of Residential schools, indigenous culture and cuisine. Starting this year, the BC curriculum includes an Indigenous Focused Graduation Requirement. Our Panthers will meet this credit through their First Nations English Language Arts course, or through a Contemporary Indigenous Studies Social Studies course. First Peoples Principals of Learning will also continue to be integrated into all courses across our curriculum. I would like to recognize our entire teaching staff for your careful and reflective work in the design and integration of this content and perspective within your courses.

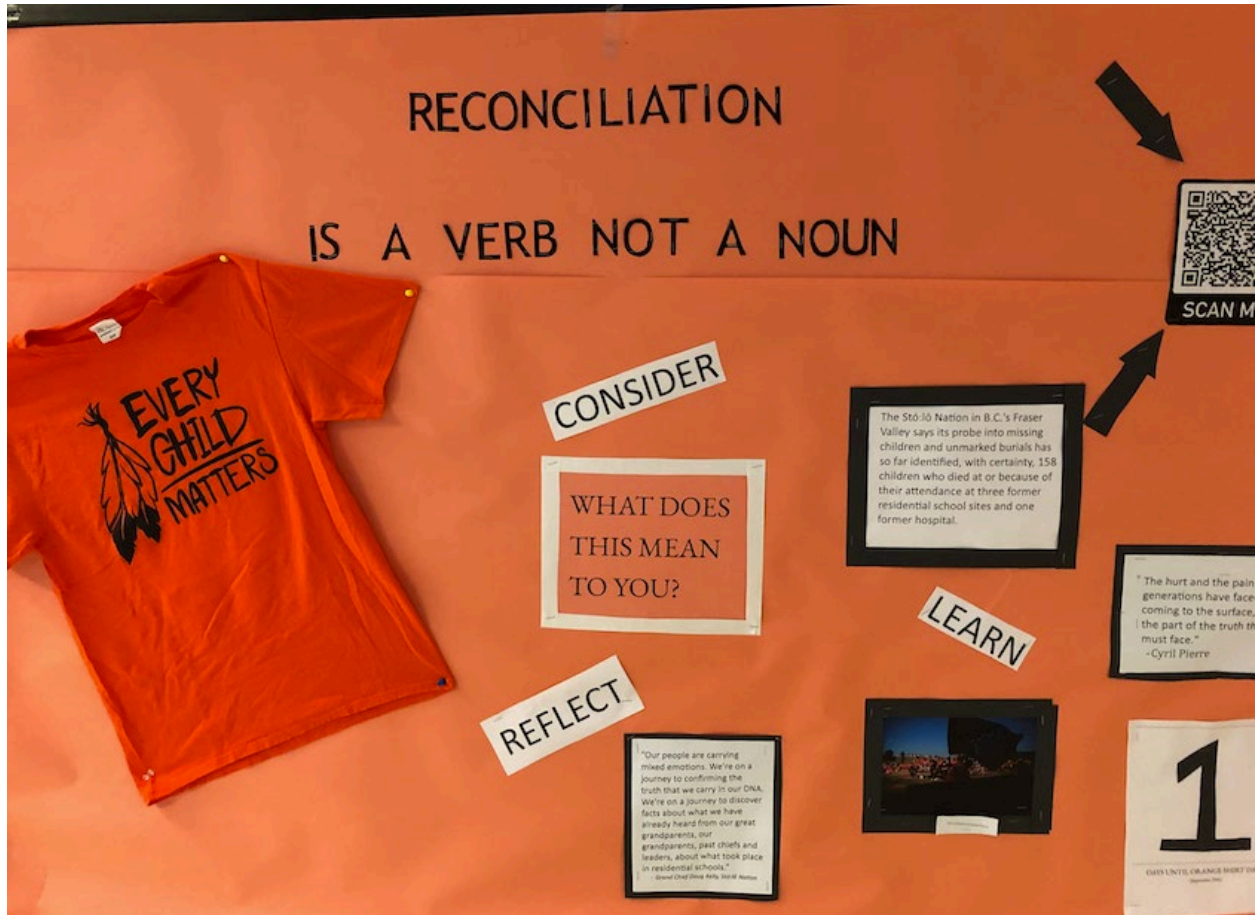
On Tuesday evening, Grade 12 Parents/Guardians had the opportunity to attend our Scholarship Information Evening hosted by Ms. Kermode and our Career Education Department. Again, important information for this year’s graduating class. We look forward to the work our students will complete this year, and the scholarship recognition and reward that will result.

Today is Photo Retake Day. Students, parents/guardians are reminded that photos may be ordered directly from Artona.com.

Another fun graduation event takes place this evening with the Grad Boat Cruise. Our students will be welcomed aboard the “Queen of Diamonds” for an evening cruise around the Vancouver Harbour. They will enjoy food, dancing, sightseeing and friendship. We will bus all the students to the dock, board the boat, and then bus students back to the school. It promises to be a fun and busy evening of graduation celebration, and we are confident that our graduating class will represent us with excellent citizenship and conduct.



Friday is Orange Shirt Day. All students and staff are encouraged to wear orange and participate in the planned curricular lesson plan and school-wide recognition.



On Friday evening our week will conclude with "Friday Night Lights". Our Varsity Boys Football team will be playing against Seaquam Secondary here at home, under the lights. It promises to be a great evening of school spirit, football and fun. Join us for this school event, and cheer on our Panthers!



Enjoy your Friday, have an excellent weekend. Please remember that Monday is National Truth and Reconciliation Day and schools will be closed. We will see everyone on Tuesday morning.

Ken

Traffic Safety





As I have quickly noticed, traffic safety around Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary is a critical priority for our community. With increased enrollment, the number of vehicles navigating around and within our school grounds also increases. It is essential that all drivers are very cautious while driving near the school and are aware of the many student pedestrians who are nearby.

All students and parents/guardians are requested to consider the following:

- If possible, students - please walk and/or bike to school. Fewer vehicles attempting to drop off and/or pick up students will be very helpful.
- Consider dropping off/picking up 2-3 blocks away from the school and avoid the traffic congestion around the school.
- Consider drop-off/pick up earlier and/or later in the morning/afternoons to avoid peak traffic times.

Thank you for your help in protecting the safety of our students.